A 24954, NOVEMBER 27, 1969

Deaths

Walter Nelson

Walter Nelson, 74, of Arbovale, died Thursday, November 20, 1969, at his home after a long illness.

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Leslie E. Montgomery retired October 31, after a total of thirty-five years and one day with the Soil Conservation Service, during which time he maintained an unusual record of safety, operating a government vehicle without involvement in any accident, and planned more than 2700 farm plans. He has remained longer as a farm planner than anyone else in the state and was never transferred.

Mr. Montgomery came to Pocahontas County in March, 1945, as Work Unit Leader, after serving 2 years in the U. S Army Air Force as an instructor for fighter pilots. Prior to that he was the agronomist for the U.S.D.A. in Monroe County and contact man for a C C C camp doing soil conservation work, one of three in West Virginia and among the first in the nation doing this work.

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doing this work.

Mr. Montgomery, Walter Jett, Calvin Price, and Dr. Dick McClung organized the Pocahontas Farming for Better Living and got the program going in 1946. This program ended with a big banquet this past week.

Born in Tyler County May 18, 1905, he attended one-room schools, completing the eighth grade at Short Run School. Following a semester at Salem Academy, he went to Pennsboro High School, participating in all sports and breaking the state 440 record in track. In 1924 he entered West Virginia University where he was a member of Theta Chi Fraternity and captain of the 1928 University track team and established a new quarter mile record that stood for about ten years. He served as an assistant recreation director for Morgantown in the summer.

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After receiving his Bachelor of Science degree in Agronomy in 1928 he went an additional semester, qualifying as a Vo-Ag instructor, also as a chemistry and physical education teacher. He taught at Williamsburg High School four years and then at Credo District High School two years.

He plans to remain on his small farm near Buckeye, buying and selling a few steers, hunting and fishing, until his wife, Ina, retires in two years. Then they hope to do some world traveling.

Mr. Montgomery expresses his thanks to the people of Pocahontas for their fine cooperation and courtesy, making his job a real pleasure.

Nursery Stock, etc

Come to God's own temple, come,
Raise the song of harvest-home.

—Alford

Tannery

Everything is rumor with no concrete facts locally to report but the status of the Marlinton Tannery is an uneasy one. The 150 or more jobs are a vital part of our economy and we know we express the hopes of our County that this plant, International Shoe Company's only remaining sole leather, tannery will continue in operation.

F. F. B. L.

Friday night's banquet was the finale for the Farming for Better Living Program, although the farmer members voted to have a last picnic this summer. Mr. and Mrs. Ken